

Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association Inc October 2020

Next Issue December 2020

President's Report

We hope everyone is staying healthy and well. I am so grateful that we live in this beautiful place with an amazing community as we march through 2020! Despite not holding meetings, the BCA committee has been busy with different activities in Brooklyn. We plan to hold our AGM on December 5th (3-5pm). To keep in line with current restrictions, we will let you know further details closer to the date, and when we know what restrictions apply.

The BCA committee met with the Hornsby Council General Manager, the Manager of Strategy and Place and the two Place managers on July 30th. We presented the Council team with a list of requested improvements and "walked" through the village, from Kangaroo Point, on the Pacific Highway, down Brooklyn Rd, the Brooklyn CBD and lower and upper McKell Park. They were very receptive to the requests (recognising that there will always be budget constraints), and already there has been some work done as a result. The iconic bump in the road has been smoothed out (sorry to those who loved that bump!), levelling out of the parking areas in front Saltpan Reserve and the oval, and finally removal of some abandoned trailers. Hornsby Council will resurface Dangar Road after the work at the station is completed. You can look at the full list later in the Gateway.

The Cottage has been closed due to Covid-19, and we just received notice that we will receive another lease from the Council. We are in discussions with the school about a possible year-end student art exhibition. Stay tuned by liking the Cottage Facebook page - The Cottage at Brooklyn. We hope to open soon and have scheduled Christmas Markets for December 13th. We are always looking for more volunteers – it's a lot of fun!

We are experiencing increased malicious damage at the Baths, Upper McKell Park and also Kangaroo Point. We have had discussions with the Crime Prevention Officer to understand what we can do. Basically – REPORT. See the article on Policing on the next page.

The BCA has contacted Road & Maritime Services about derelict half-sunken boats in the Gut. The area has a new officer who started less than a year ago, and who has been busy finishing an audit of moorings. The RMS are in the process of contacting the owners, and some of these boats will be removed in the next few months.

If you see something that you would like improved, reported, fixed, you are encouraged to go to the Hornsby Shire as the best means to communicate your issues. The link is below:

<https://eservices.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/ePathway/Hornsby/Web/Mobility/CityWatch/index.html>

We look forward to seeing you at our AGM and The Cottage soon.

Di Bowles, President Brooklyn Community Association

president@brooklyncommunity.org.au

Brooklyn Community Association

Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting

3pm-5pm Saturday 5 December 2020

BCA Members, Guests and Friends welcome.

www.brooklyncommunity.org.au

Facebook: Brooklyn Community Association-BCA. The Cottage at Brooklyn

Meeting Dates

Saturday

7 March

30 May

29 August

5 December-
3pm & AGM

The Gateway Newsletter is produced in both printed form; distributed to some 600 households in Brooklyn and the Lower Hawkesbury; and in online form, on the Brooklyn Community Association's website. Some pages in the printed form of this edition of the Gateway Newsletter are in black & white, and the online form is in colour. The full colour edition can be found at <http://brooklyncommunity.org.au/about-bca/gatewaynewsletter/>

Parking in Brooklyn

At the September 9th Council meeting, the Hornsby Shire presented its Draft Hornsby Shire Council Car Parking Management Study. You can read it by the link below:

http://businesspapers.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Open/2020/09/GM_09092020_ATT.PDF

This strategy was Shire wide, and within the strategy, they looked at 17 different town centres/areas. The work was done by independent consultants to look at the parking needs and issues of the whole Hornsby Council area. At this beginning stage, there has been no community engagement regarding this study as it was about collecting information, usage and making some recommendations. A communications and engagement Framework Summary is outlined in this document going forward. This study is 273 pages long, and Brooklyn is one of the 17 areas.

As everyone in this community knows, over 30 years (some say 40!) and 10 studies later, we have not gotten any closer to solving this issue. The Lower Hawkesbury Coalition made up of Brooklyn, Dangar Island, Little Wobby Beach, Cogra Bay, Wondabyne, Bar Point, Milsons Passage and Mooney Mooney/Cheero communities met to discuss how we can do things differently this time and work together for a solution rather than let this remain an issue for many more years. We are in the middle of reviewing different processes and engagement methods for communities to work together on contentious issues. All associations will communicate with their residents and businesses to gain feedback on ideas for a new approach. We are NOT discussing parking issues, solutions or anything except trying to identify a way we can work together and come up with solutions we can implement. Hornsby Council is well aware that all communities want to be heard. During this beginning process, we must all be patient, understanding and keep open minds.

Policing in Brooklyn

We have been in discussions with the Crime Prevention Officer at the Hornsby Police Station. Below is some of the response to the racing occurring on Pacific Hwy. For malicious damage, as mentioned above, we need to REPORT.

Call the police station on 02 9476 9799 when it is happening; if it is after the fact then report to the Police Assist line at 131 444. We have been informed that it isn't beneficial for us to show photos of the damage on Facebook. But take pictures that we can use in the police reports. If your child might be going to these areas to meet friends, ask them to clean up after themselves, especially the bottles. They were little once and ran around the baths without the fear of cutting open their feet or stepping on a fire that is still lit. Please also report incidents to the Facebook page: Brooklyn Neighbourhood Watch.

If you want a bit more quiet in the evenings and safer roadways, we also need to report the hoons and motorcycle racers on Pacific Highway to the police numbers above.

The following email has been received from NSW Police, in response to an enquiry from the BCA:

I have spoken with one of the supervisors at Highway Patrol. He assures me that they have ongoing operations in and around the Brooklyn area, as they do with other targeted areas within the Command. To give you an overview of police activity in the Brooklyn area, I've included, almost dot point, some of the feedback from Highway Patrol.

There have been times when Highway Patrol and General Duties (me included in this) have stopped and spoken to a congregation of drivers at Kangaroo Point. When dealing with them, they aren't particularly doing anything wrong at that time, but their vehicles are looked at and defected if they breach any of the road safety laws.

Highway Patrol is very aware of the issues facing the local community in and around Brooklyn with these hoons and are not only reactive but proactive in their efforts to reduce this type of behaviour. So too, our General duties officers.

I hope this gives you some comfort that we are serious in dealing with those hooning in the area and in fact do interact with them on many occasions with infringements and defect notices being issued.

Hornsby Councillor Nathan Tilbury Hornsby, Local Area Command's Crime Prevention Officer Senior Constable Colin Mitchell, and the office of Matt Kean MP are organising a Crime Prevention Forum for the Berowra district. The forum is planned for Tuesday 3rd November, from 6pm to 8pm at Berowra Community Centre in The Gully Road. Due to current COVID 19 restrictions, meaning the venue can only accommodate 100 people, the event is planned to be live streamed.

Hornsby Council: Saltpan Reserve

The Council's plans for Saltpan Reserve are to rehabilitate and restore existing vegetation and provide a passive bushland area with community access. With the small budget, Council have been progressing slowly, using a sustainable approach to the Project, searching for what they can get for free, reuse, recycle & repurpose material at the site such as rocks, timber, logs and sandstone crush.

Future works and opportunities for Saltpan Reserve are:

- Install of circular walking track
- Investigate grant opportunities to install level hard surfaced track to allow access for all community including those with mobility issues
- Continue earthworks and hard landscaping to create planting beds
- Contract planting, revegetation and maintenance to establishment
- Scheduled community planting days (in accordance with COVID-19 recommendations)
- Establish a regular Parkcare Group to assist with planting & maintenance increasing community participation and ownership of the site
- Interpretative signage developed
- Rest and enjoy the space!



Council has recently renewed bush regeneration contracts for McKell Park, Brooklyn Park, The Saltpan, Seymours Creek and Bar Island. It has been a good year to plant and we are gearing up for more. We need little and big hands to help us plant more trees & shrubs at Saltpan Reserve. Come along and join us for a Community Planting Day on:

Sunday 18 October 9.30am – 12.00pm at Saltpan Reserve, behind the RFS building
BYO hat, gloves, sunscreen & water. Council will supply plants and some tools.

In line with COVID precautions we are asking participants to book in via email to dfitton@hornsby.nsw.gov.au so we can manage the numbers.

Council would like to start a Bushcare Group at The Saltpan in the next few months. If you would like to plant more tree & shrubs, assist us to regenerate this reserve, learn about your native flora and meet other Brooklyn locals send an email to bushcare@hornsby.nsw.gov.au.

Donna Fitton Tree Care Project Officer Hornsby Shire Council dfitton@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Hornsby Council:

'Sustainable Hornsby 2040' is Hornsby Council's draft strategy for an innovative and environmentally sustainable Shire with resilient, diverse and thriving communities and ecosystems. This draft strategy is now on exhibition until 30 October 2020. As part of the exhibition process for 'Sustainable Hornsby 2040', Council will be hosting a public webinar to assist the community in writing submissions.

Date: Tuesday 13 October All welcome. You must register to participate.

Time: 6.30pm-8pm <https://future.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/event/sustainable-hornsby-2040-webinar>



'Hornsby Localised' is a digital networking platform for businesses. Council launched Hornsby Localised because we're working on a town centre recovery program across the Shire (due to COVID) and we needed a way to build a network of businesses operating in town centres quickly and remotely during COVID lockdown.

We will be doing a postcard drop to town centre businesses in Brooklyn next week. It would be great if we could get every business in Brooklyn to sign up!



David Johnston & Julia Morton Strategy & Place Hornsby Shire Council JMorton@Hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Hawkesbury River Station Lift

Opening Sweep

The Hawkesbury River Railway Station lift is taking shape and the excitement grows. The barricades will soon disappear.

To celebrate the opening, we are running a sweep. Buy a numbered ticket for \$5 that will match with a time and date. There are 200 Tickets. You won't know the time and date for your ticket until all tickets are sold. The time and date closest to the official ribbon cutting opening will win \$150 and will get one of the first rides on the lift. All proceeds go to the BCA to be used for the benefit of the Brooklyn community.

See the BCA website brooklyncommunity.org.au or contact the BCA by email fundraising@brooklyncommunity.org.au



Bob Davis & Jayne Donnelly 0438 821 305

Blues Cruise

Blues Collective Hawkesbury River Blues Cruise IX on the Bay Runner from Brooklyn took place on Sunday 27 September 2020. Chris Martin Murphy, Martin Skipper, Ian Chisholm, Bruce Stephens, and guest vocalist Angela Mac had a wonderful afternoon with 45 Covid-safe, very enthusiastic, and supportive passengers, and three very skilled and helpful crew members Justin (skipper), Nat and Cybelle.

Look out for our new (and first time) Christmas Party Blues Cruise X in December, and then our traditional Summer Blues Cruise XI in February. Hopefully Covid-safe regulations will be relaxed, and capacity will be increased in time for each of these cruises.



*Pics by Di Greenslade.
(Final pic is the crowd singing
back the refrain of
'I Got My Mojo Working'.)*

*Chris Martin Murphy, MA, QPR,
15 Peat Street, Brooklyn
B: +61 412 315 677
P: +61 429 934 634
Gmail: cjmm43@gmail.com*

The Gateway is published by the Brooklyn Community Association. Contact the BCA on info@brooklyncommunity.org.au. While every attempt is made to publish content as submitted, some editing of material may occur during publication.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution to the BCA of RW Corkery & Co who kindly print the Gateway newsletter and Gary Robertson, Brooklyn's postie and musician, and his associates, who kindly deliver the Gateway in the community.

Chair Yoga in Brooklyn with Jo

It's hard to believe that Chair Yoga has now been going for over three and a half years. In that time attendance has grown as word spread. The secret was out - exercising was fun, and the coffee, cake and chat afterwards just added to the enjoyment.

As well as the regular Thursday classes, and before social distancing, the group has enjoyed many social outings.



Barbeques at McKell Park, a visit to Muogamarra, Elvis at the annual Christmas parties, Boules contests and a trip on the Riverboat Postman are just some of the social outings the group have enjoyed.

AND then came Covid 19. Unfortunately, classes had to stop to protect the health of the group although the social activities were able to continue with Covid safe rules of social distancing in place.



These *free* classes are designed for those in the community who are interested in improving their lifestyle but cannot do traditional yoga.

Chair yoga run and coordinated for the community by Jo Scarsbrick, sponsored by King Tide Café and the Corkerys. See you all in first term 2021.

Karen Arnold & Jo Scarsbrick j_yoga@bigpond.com 0414 240 342



QR Gallery

Original artworks

Commissions

Archival prints

Postcards

Paper maquettes

210 Brooklyn Rd
Brooklyn NSW

ambrosereisch210@gmail.com
ambrosereisch.com

0450 302 615

**Custom made
leather goods**



Bags, Belts, dog collars and more
Make an appointment to design
something special

118 Brooklyn Road Brooklyn
0410 418 824



Yoga with Jo

The Ground of all being is Consciousness

Come along to 1:1 Personalised Sessions:
Hatha Yoga Classes, Meditation, Personal
Training & TRX Fitness and Health Coach, AADP

Jo's Brooklyn Studio, Brooklyn

Ring Jo to book. POA. Mobile 0414240342

BCA Worklist with Hornsby Council

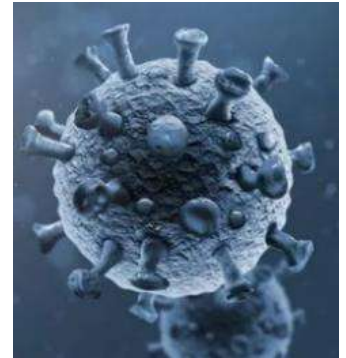
The BCA has been busy asking the Council for improvements in Brooklyn. As mentioned in the President's Report, the BCA committee met with Hornsby Council team, and they were very receptive to the requests. Subsequently, the Council has recorded many of the items in their operating branches. A number have been completed, including the road improvements to the S-bend at Seymours Creek.



See next page

THIS PESTILENCE INVISIBLE

*This pestilence invisible, attracted to the weak
Can leave them hardly breathing and struggling to speak
Or walk or move about with ease or eat or drink or live
While believers ask their chosen God not to forsake them but to forgive
Them for their various sins the times they have done harm
While younger people party on as if their lives are charmed
Oblivious and asymptomatic they endanger all the rest
Killing older friends and relatives because they shunned the test
Refusing to self-isolate they celebrate in style
Ignoring social distancing they are thoughtless without guile
While the vulnerable are fearful that they may well be next
And mask their fear and breathing their situation vexed
With difficult decisions about going out or staying home
Or whether to see others or contactless be alone
And just when we think it is over the plague may recommence
Seeking out its victims like soft targets it has sensed
When many will claim immunity but none of them yet know
Whether Covid-19 is here to stay has just abated or will soon go
And what will later take its place from whence will it arise
Just who will it take away with it who of us lives who of us dies
This is a time for thoughtful sense a time to take more care
To protect ourself and others not to accept a foolish dare
To carry on indifferent as if nothing has really changed
When that ignorance can kill us, lose our loved ones become deranged
And so now is the time to consider whether we stay or wish to go
Whether we will be survivors we really cannot know
But we can take a deep breath stop and think just pause
Then later press restart on life avoiding death's wide jaws
Let us wish each other very well, not just loved but safe and sound
What the future holds is hard to tell whether we will be lost or will be found*



© Chris Martin Murphy, Brooklyn NSW 2083, Australia, 10th August 2020.

Brooklyn Theatre in the Park

We have come to the decision that unfortunately due to Covid 19 that this year's production will not be going ahead for the first time in 20 years. Thank you for your understanding and the continual support from the local community.

We would also like to take this opportunity to introduce the new committee members for Theatre in the Park: Pete Hughes (Director); Paul Burcher (Producer and Treasurer); Anastasia Delaportas (Secretary); Gary Robertson (Public Officer/ Ordinary member); Karen Hughes (Ordinary member).

We would like to extend the invitation for anyone that is interested in becoming involve in Brooklyn Theatre, from stage hands to committee members, please feel free to send your interest to brooklyntheatreinthepark@gmail.com

Thank you to the outgoing members Karen Wallis and Lyn Shakeshaft for all their support, time and effort over the years.

Karen & Lyn: Producers <brooklyntheatreinthepark@gmail.com>

Area	Item	Council Action	- No action yet	* Recorded	✓ Underway
Kangaroo Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing back on prime seat. Cigarette butts everywhere. General gardening (especially the area planted by Brooklyn Bushcare team in 2017). 			*	*
Pacific Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plethora of signs, many permanent. Just attached to the fence, which is falling apart. 			*	*
Brooklyn Rd (West)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brooklyn Business Directory needs updating near Dolphin Marina – the BCA supports the Tourism Collective on this initiative. Bad road surface needs repair (right next to the Roads to Recovery sign) Boardwalk to Kangaroo Point the next (and final) stage of the Shared Bicycle/Footpath 			✓	-
Wharf St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supposed to be parkland reserve, with access to the water Trailer parking 			*	*
Brooklyn Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanently parked cars/ boat trailers on Brooklyn Rd near RFS Station and near bridge before Cole St. Road surface sinking below Saltpan Creek bridge level (clatter of trailers and "crash" of trucks early in the morning). Undermining on retaining wall north east end of bridge opposite NSW RFS Damaged seat on side of road within trees 			✓	*
Saltpan Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area continuously wet in front of Saltpan Reserve. Requires sealing/gravelling/drainage Bins for visitors along roadside 			✓	*
Brooklyn Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-road surface needs repair next to Brooklyn Oval Signage needed for angle parking Deteriorated town sign with no relationship to Brooklyn (outside advertisers only). Being addressed by the Tourism Collective 			*	*
Tennis Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trailer parking outside tennis courts. (Tennis courts work on the Council plan for 2020/21 year). 			*	
Brooklyn Rd (before Bridge)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appearance on Brooklyn Rd, leading up to the railway bridge, some house front yards an eyesore, and derelict permanently parked cars, causing road to get quite narrow 			-	
Brooklyn CBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dilapidated appearance of the town centre. Beautification required, opportunity once the rail work is completed. Directory signage required Limited parking in the CBD. Spaces should be marked so vehicles don't take up 2 spaces Widen the footpath in front of The Cottage Initiative for dual naming at the Railway Station 			-	-

Area	Item	Council Action	- No action yet	* Recorded	✓ Underway
Parsley Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over many weekends (more so during COVID), Parsley Bay is full to overflowing, and vehicles and people everywhere Possible to have a sign at the M1 exit to redirect drivers to Derubbin when Parsley Bay is full. Boats permanently parked Potentially paid parking, time limited parking with exemption for local residents and shire club users. Vehicles cross grass to access boat ramp and park on other grassed areas North-west corner has excess vehicles and trailers. To reduce litter, more bins, dog poo bags etc around this area Fallen signs Use seawater on fish cleaning tray to stop people washing their boats 				✓
Upper McKell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excessive permanent trailer and vehicle parking in the open area. Causes difficulty for local residents. 27 box/boat trailers & 5 stored cars on Sunday, in addition to tourist parking. Possibly worth considering marked parking and parking time limitations Some vehicles stored permanently (Upper McKell, Lower McKell and off Brooklyn Rd). The picnic area has been closed for a significant time. We would like to see the work completed, so the community has access to the park. Too much overflow on weekends so too many people sharing the baths area in Lower McKell Park during Covid-19. Repair needed on path from Flat Rock Point up to McKell Park. Enhance the Lookout to make it more attractive 				✓
Lower McKell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some landscaping work done along Flat Rock Walk, but Flat Rock Walk now too narrow for social distance. More signage needed (perhaps artwork style) and more bins for fisher people (in multiple languages) to put hooks, lines, other rubbish The area around the swimming pool is an eyesore, should be the most picturesque point in town. Reinstate signage from Federation funding grant circa 2001 Storage and permanent parking dominate the area. 				*
Dangar Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dangar Rd badly needs repair and resurfacing. Pedestrian access is poor and unattractive Make the footpath along Dangar Rd more obvious and inviting, to prevent people walking along the road. Install concrete blocks to stop parking onto footpath 				*

Brothers in Ohms

Residents from the small fishing village of Brooklyn were in shock yesterday with the announcement that a newly formed *e-bikie gang* had joined the outlaw circuit.

This band of outsiders have shunned the traditions of car rego, green and pink slips, petrol scalping, toll roads and traffic jams and switched to the freewheeling lifestyle of wind in the hair and a fully charged battery.

The gang are keen to expand and in efforts to recruit and have offered e-rides to the brave. Villagers that have dared take to the saddle and press the peddle assist button have returned from their rapid cycle with breath taking proclamations of the experience as being “life charging.”

Vic Schubert, a local cycling enthusiast, young father Ben Coleman, and oversees visitor Jonathon Sykes all had smiles wider than Brooklyn Railway Bridge upon their returns.

Amongst all those that have had an e-ride there was little resistance to purchasing one. Everyone has shown the capacitance to ride.

Gang founder and President Bob (e-bike evangelist) Davis was not surprised. His red electric tricycle had been a common feature on Brooklyn’s footpaths during weekend newspaper deliveries. He had turned many dials and generated much interest.

Always ahead of the curve Bob’s plans were to insulate the Brooklyn community against the surge of petrol vehicles and ravages of more car parking. Bob knew this could polarise the whole community. He has been warned that as gang leader if he could not rectify his behaviour and insulate himself from bad influences he could be charged and thrown into a cell.

With Covid lockdown Bob’s orders are now relayed from gang headquarters, his veranda that overlooks Brooklyn Road. A recent visit by Pete Powers from the Taree chapter of Brothers in Ohms and Wendy Watts from the Re-sistor-hood gave the gang an opportunity to spark ideas for further expansion of their field.

After hearing of his capacity on the e-bike Bob welcomed the latest member Tomasi Kill-O-Watt into the gang. With so much potential and after a brief initiation, Tomasi was promoted to Sergeant-at-Ohms.

If you’d like to join the current gang, membership comes with a low charge. The local Brooklyn chapter patrols its current turf from Parsley Bay to the Estuary Restaurant giving it a short circuit.



President Bob (e-bike) Davis with Wendy Watts (Resistorhood) and MultiPeters: Pete Power & Pete Pedelec



Sergeant-at-Ohms: Tomasi Kill-O-Watt Secretary: Pete Pedelec

Peter Davis

0437 579 748 | peter.john.davis@det.nsw.edu.au

Letter to the Editor: *Friendly Reminder*

Dear Editor,

I would just like to see the following mentioned somewhere in the next edition, maybe under friendly reminders:

- When out walking please to keep to the left.
- Always pick-up your doggies number 2 as no one likes to step in it or see it on the verge or foot path.
- Brooklyn Road is 50 kph day and night with the exception of the school zone. I know it is not YOU but there are an awful lot of people in hurry to get somewhere.

Leanne